



N THE WHITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application

Esswein et al.

Group:

Division of Application No. 09/508,714, filed April 11, 2000

Examiner:

For: OSTEOBLAST-SPECIFIC MITOGENS AND DRUGS CONTAINING SUCH COMPOUNDS

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Nutley, New Jersey 07110 September 29, 2000

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The above-identified U.S. application is divisional application under 35 U.S.C. §1.53(b). Before calculation of the fee and examination please amend the subject application as follows:

## In the Claims:

Immediately preceding claim 1, change "Claims:" to -- What is claimed is: --.

Cancel claims 1-5, without prejudice.

Add new claims 6 -9 that read as follows:

AP

-- 6. A lysophosphatidylic acid derivative selected from the group consisting of compounds of formula: